

Application No.: 10/771,447

6

Docket No.: 000166.0109-US04

REMARKS

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-14 and 17-19 are pending for the Examiner's consideration, with claims 1 and 14 being the independent claims. Claims 14 and 17-19 have been allowed, and claims 8-11 have been indicated as allowable. Claims 1-7, 12 and 13 have been rejected on grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting, which have been obviated by the filing on March 2, 2006 of the appropriate terminal disclaimer documents. The amendment made herein to claim 1 was done at the request of Examiners Lopez, Mitchell, and Bennett to advance prosecution of the present application to allowance. Support for the amendment made herein can be found, for example, on pages 12 and 15 of the application as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application includes only allowed or allowable claims, and, therefore, is in condition for immediate allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing remarks demonstrate that entry of these amendments places the present application in condition for allowance. All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: May 15, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Andrea G. Reister

Registration No.: 36,253

COVINGTON & BURLING

1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Washington, DC 20004-2401

(202) 662-6000

Attorney for Applicant

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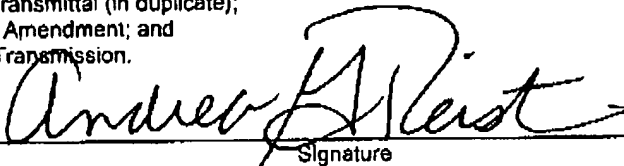
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Andrea G. Reister

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38,253

Registration Number, if applicable

(202) 662-5141

Telephone Number

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